



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JAN 04 2017

Mr. Patrick Kenny, Superintendent
Cape Lookout National Seashore
131 Charles Street
Harkers Island, North Carolina 28531

Re: Cape Lookout National Seashore Off-road Vehicle Management Plan/Final
Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), North Carolina; CEQ No.: 20169290.

Dear Mr. Kenny:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reviewed the subject document pursuant to the Clean Air Act (CAA) §309 and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) §102(2)(C). The National Park Service (NPS) evaluated the impacts of a range of management alternatives to manage off-road vehicle use and access within Cape Lookout National Seashore to protect and preserve natural and cultural resources and natural processes, to provide a variety of visitor use experiences while minimizing conflicts between and among various users, and to promote the safety of all visitors. The NPS proposes to create new seasonal pedestrian-only areas, expand an existing pedestrian-only area, and implement an off-road vehicle permit system based upon the highest current level of ORV use. The NPS intends to prohibit high-performance sport-model and two-stroke all-terrain vehicles and utility-type vehicles (after a one-year grace period), and implement trailer-length restrictions (after a one-year grace period). Additionally, night driving restrictions will be in effect between May 1st and September 14th to protect turtles and bird chicks and a winter Seashore closure will be in effect from January 1st through March 15th. Our review of the FEIS did not identify any significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action. Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Beth Walls of my staff at walls.beth@epa.gov or 404-562-8309.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Alan Farmer", is positioned above the printed name.

G. Alan Farmer

Director

Resource Conservation and Restoration Division